

# THE MICHIGAN LIBRARIAN

*June 1951*

*Published by the*

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 17

NUMBER 2

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# THE MICHIGAN LIBRARIAN

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

JUNE  
1951

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VOLUME 17  
NUMBER 2

### EDITORIAL STAFF

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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE



This has been a very busy time of year for the Association as a whole, and again I am impressed by the willingness of people to work hard and selflessly to further the progress of libraries in Michigan.

As I write this memo to the membership the final district meeting has been held. Mr. Orr's report on those meetings is in this issue. The School and Children's Librarians Section had a most successful institute in Lansing May 11-12, with a good attendance, an interesting program and forward looking ideas about bringing books and children together. June 11-12 are the dates set aside for a Librarian's Institute in connection with the Alumni University at Ann Arbor. Librarians are interested in coming together to discuss the many things that are of common concern to us; they do feel and practice their belief that education is a continuing, lifelong thing.

The committees have been busy, and many have recommendations for action at the Detroit Conference, November 1-2-3. The amendments proposed by the Constitution Committee are in this issue. Read and discuss them so that we can act for the best interests of all of us this fall. The Salary, Staff and Tenure Committee recommends that the Michigan Library Association adopt for use in the state the

A.L.A. Classification and Pay Plans for Municipal Public Libraries and the Descriptive List of Professional and Non-Professional duties in Libraries. The committee has also been studying pensions; the report of that sub-committee was published in the March *Michigan Librarian*. The sub-committee on certification is still working to clarify and simplify the whole structure for certification

The problems of Redistricting the state for a better organization were discussed at all the District meetings this Spring. The report of the committee was analyzed and there will be further recommendations to the committee as a result of the discussions. The Planning Committee is suggesting two types of surveys of Michigan libraries: a study of governmental support and controls of libraries and a study of sources of reading materials and holdings of libraries. At the Executive Board meeting on March 16, it was voted to make available for the purposes of the state wide survey of public libraries, the funds given by Mr. and Mrs. Fyan, these to be used as needed when the survey gets under way.

The Conference Planning Committee has signed contracts for two general session speakers. Anthony West, author of "The Vintage" (and son of H. G. Wells) will speak at the opening session. His topic is "Is the Novel a Social Force?" At the Friday night banquet Leland Stowe will discuss "Educating for Peace—Our Long Term Job." We are looking forward to a stimulating conference this year, with an unusually fine program and outstanding exhibits. Plan now to attend!

Marian Young  
President

## WHO'S WHO Continued

### M. L. A. Institute Committee (appointed for two years, 1951-52)

*Chairman:* Clover Flanders; Chief Extension Librarian, General Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Rudolph H. Gjelsness, Chairman, Department of Library Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Alice Louise Lefevre, Director, Department of Librarianship, Western Michigan College of Education, Kalamazoo.

Otto Yntema, Extension Division, Western Michigan College of Education, Kalamazoo.

Louise F. Rees, School Library Consultant, Michigan State Library, Lansing.

Mrs. Frances H. Brewer, Catalog Department, Detroit Public Library, Detroit.

### Constitution Committee

*Chairman:* Charlotte C. Dunnebacke, Michigan State Law Library, Lansing.

Hobart R. Coffey, Law Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Alta Parks, Ingham County Library, Mason.

Mrs. Norma B. MacDonald, Public Library, Detroit.

Mabel L. Conat, Executive Secretary, Friends of the Detroit Public Library Inc., Detroit.

# DETROIT CONFERENCE

HOTEL STATLER, DETROIT  
NOVEMBER 1-3, 1951  
THURSDAY, November 1, 1951

- 1:00 P.M. Registration.  
Exhibits open  
6:00 P.M. Group Dinners if desired  
Speaker: Anthony West  
Topic: Is the Novel a Social Force  
10:00 P.M. Reception

## FRIDAY, November 2, 1951

- 8:30 A.M. Section breakfasts and Business Meetings  
Hospital Libraries Section, Alice E. Forward, Chairman; Adult Education Section, William Chait, Chairman.  
10:00 A.M. General Session: Business Meeting  
12:30 P.M. Section Luncheons and Business Meetings  
Trustees Section, Mrs. Thelma Kramer, Chairman; College Section, Catherine O'Connell, Chairman; Catalog Section, Clarence Weaver, Chairman.  
2:30 P.M. Section Meetings  
Reference Section, Florence Harnau, Chairman  
4:00-5:00 P.M. Special period for visits to Exhibits  
7:00 P.M. Conference Banquet  
Speaker: Leland Stowe  
Topic: Educating for Peace—Our Long Term Job

## SATURDAY, November 3, 1951

- 8:30 A.M. Section Breakfast and Business Meeting  
School and Children's Librarians Section, Mrs. Beulah I. Bock, Chairman  
10:00 A.M. General Session: Business Meeting  
12:30 P.M. Section Luncheons

NOTE: Other Section meetings will be scheduled as soon as requests are received for time.

## CARE - UNESCO Children's Book Fund

The Lansing Library Club contributed \$22.25 to the CARE-UNESCO Children's Book Fund at their quarterly meeting April 6th, when the East Lansing Library entertained the group at the Peoples' Church, East Lansing, announced Dorothy Rozek, Chairman. The Lansing Library Club is made up of the staffs of the Lansing Public Library, East Lansing Public Library, Ingham County Library, Michigan State Library and Michigan State College Library.

CARE-UNESCO Book Fund is sponsored jointly by the American Library Association, National Council of Parents and Teachers, and the Association for Childhood Education. After studying the list of books in each package the club members voted to send one group in each age range, and Groups A-4 and B-10 were selected. The choice of A-4 was suggested by a guest, Bruce Pomeroy of Kalamazoo, the grandson of one of the librarians present. Bruce, who is ten, said he had read every book in that group and they were "awfully good books". It was decided to leave the selection of recipients to CARE, wherever it was felt that the need was greatest.

This group action was taken after Mr. Alvin Bennett, a member of the Michigan UNESCO Council, showed a film and discussed the United Nations with the group. He placed special emphasis on the work of UNESCO. Mr. Bennett suggested several ways in which libraries could aid the UNESCO program, including actively promoting the CARE-UNESCO Book Fund drive in their own communities, becoming members of the Michigan UNESCO Council and informing all members of their large and varied publics concerning UNESCO.

— Donna Perrine, Secretary, Lansing Library Club



# LABOR LOOKS AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

by

Bill Kemsley, Education Director  
Michigan CIO Council

Some time ago I was asked to put down a few ideas on how libraries might better cooperate with the education programs of the union movement.

It is apparent that we have much in common. Basically we are both stimulating people to give more thought to the complex problems that confront them in today's chaotic times.

It is indeed pleasing to see more librarians becoming interested in labor's problems and realizing that our problems are the nation's problems and the nation's problems are ours. A nation without a free union movement is a nation under a dictator's yoke.

Organized labor is a growing force in every American community. Union education is becoming a more important phase of union activity as union leaders are being faced with more complex problems.

That librarians should be interested in our education programs is only right and logical. That they should want to serve us as an integral group in the community is to be expected. That they are approaching us with profers of help is commendable. And that they are asking us just how to best proffer that help is indeed laudatory and deserving of a well considered answer.

I believe that it is a correct assumption that very few union leaders and, for that matter, few union education directors fully realize the services that are available from their public library. Nor do many of them know that they have friends in the library who are interested in their problems and anxious to be of service to them.

First, I believe that all librarians should designate some person on their staff to act as Labor Librarian. This person should be selected with some degree of care. Preferably he, (in the generic sense) should be a union member himself. At least he should have some interest in and understanding of the unionist and his problems. And he should have the ability to work with people.

Second, a separate Labor Department or Section, or, in small libraries, a Labor Shelf should be set up. Much care should be given to the selection of books that go into this section. To indicate what I mean, let me say

that no self-respecting union member would be seen with some of the books I have seen in various collections that may have been loaned to union education institutes and on lists recommended by certain libraries.

In making these selections, it is wise to secure lists of suggested books from such sources as the National CIO, the Workers Education Bureau of the AFofL, the national education departments of the various unions in your community, the education departments of State CIO Council and State Federation. One important reason for setting up such a section of good labor books is to first prove to the unionist that your interest in him and his problems is an honest and basic one. Remember that he has learned through bitter experience to question the motives of many of those who call themselves his friends.

The Labor Librarian should get to know those who are active in the union education program in his community and area. As well, drop into the various union offices (it's usually best to first make an appointment) and get acquainted with the local union officers. Ask to speak at their union meetings, but always try to do this through the education committee of the local or county council. And when you begin to see the union at work don't try to run it for the boys. They may be inexperienced and seem to be cumbersome in their ways, but they do get things done.

Perhaps you might take a deposit of books to the union meetings with you. Make it a broad selection for our reading tastes are as broad as any other group's. You might arrange to loan out books at one meeting to be picked up at the next.

Ask to put up a display on your library's services at the union hall. Provide posters whenever they are available. Never miss the chance to tell the story of your library and its aims to all union groups. In some communities the Labor Librarian is a regular feature at the union meeting and plugs a new book at each session.

You might try to get the union education committee to start up a book discussion club. But don't forget that these people work hard and are tired. They've already put in 8 or 10

(Continued on page 22)



## WHAT IS A LIBRARY FOR?\*

by

Dr. Willis F. Dunbar, Director,  
Public Affairs, WKZO, WJEF, WKZO-TV

Your invitation to me to appear at your meeting today was caused, I suppose, by your desire to get the non-librarian's slant on the library. I am sure you will understand that, in what I have to say, I understand that you have a great many problems about which I know little, that your experience and competence as librarians will cause you to smile a little tolerantly I hope, at what I shall have to say. I know, though not as intimately as you, that your budgets are pitifully inadequate to do the job that you would like to do and that should be done. I will try to bear in mind the limitations which the lack of funds always impose.

But it has been my experience that one never makes progress by meek acquiescence to circumstance. I know that you have to pare your program to meet a budget; nevertheless, I hope that you always have dreams, at least, of what might be done if you did have the money. No-one is worth his salt unless he has ambitions beyond his present means, and puts forth some effort to acquire the means to fulfill his ambitions. If a library, or any other institution, is to grow in usefulness, or even maintain its existing status, it must have a program to present to the public which will be understandable, which will be functional, which will have an appeal to those who provide the funds. So I hope that out of my talk and out of this conference, you may get some bit of inspiration to make your library a more significant institution in your community, to enlarge its usefulness, and to seek the support which you need in order to make this possible.

I imagine that all of you would recognize that there is much that is cheap and tawdry and transitory about contemporary American life. Thousands of people spend their free time mostly in taverns, drinking beer, listening to the juke box, and talking about sex. The grade B movies, the omniverous comic books, the slapstick television shows, the radio who-dunits, the taste, or lack of taste, which one sees evidenced in home furnishings, and much else attest to this fact. To a degree, the democratization of our culture, which has resulted from mass production and mass

\*Dr. Dunbar addressed the District 1 meeting in Dowagiac May 9.

communications, has meant a leveling down of our standards of taste and values. Not so many years ago, one used to read articles and books which prophesied that with the increase of leisure time which the machine and science would make possible, people would have more opportunity for cultural pursuits, that life might be less hurried and frenzied. Actually, the opposite has turned out to be the case. We Americans live at a frantic clip. There never seem to be enough hours in the day to do all the things we want to do. We work shorter hours than we used to, or at least some do, but we continue the same nervous pace when we are off the job. We are so hurried, and there are so many ways to use our time, that we want to get everything the easy way. We want a soft job, a short-cut to education, culture in six easy lessons, and all the finesse required to make friends and influence people by reading one book.

Now to the layman the library stands in contrast to all these tendencies about which I have spoken. He thinks of the library as a place of serenity, although it may not appear as such to you librarians. The library to most people nowadays is a place where you can find information, inspiration, and even entertainment, all for free, but none-the-less, the hard way. In pioneer times, people set great store by libraries because they were the only source of information and ideas, the only interpreters of beauty, and the only source for the means of employing leisure time profitably and pleasantly. Today libraries have much more competition. The type of individual who formerly had to resort to the library, now can find what he wants otherwise. No-one, I dare say, would today deny the importance of libraries, in theory, as ever. But perhaps it would not be unfair to say that they are, to many people, less indispensable than they once were.

Yesterday I received from Lansing some materials indicating an amazing lack of concern on the part of the legislature about our State Library, burned out in the recent fire in the State Office Building. There seem to be some rumors that the collections of the State Library may be placed in storage for an indefinite time. It has been suggested that

the State Library be combined with the Michigan State College Library out at East Lansing, four or five miles from the center of state government. I cannot believe that these things will be done, but the very fact that they have been suggested illustrates that many people have a tendency to regard a library as a luxury.

All this is a matter of deep concern to you, I know, and I am sure that your concern is shared by a great many thinking people. In such a situation, the librarian must many times ask herself or himself, "Shall I fight 'em or join 'em?" In other words, is it wise for a library to bow to lower standards of taste, cater to them, and conform to them? Or is it the library's mission to stand as a citadel of intelligence, and good taste in a community? There are still millions of people who like to read books. There is a small group in every community that wants to read *good* books. Can the library make the greatest contribution by continuing to serve this group, or should it endeavor to popularize its services so that it will have a greater mass appeal?

There are dangers, it seems to me, in both directions. If the library makes no concessions to these changes which have come about, it is in danger of withering away, becoming less and less significant, and losing public support. We must face the fact that in the long run, the majority of the people must be sufficiently convinced of the value of a library to them to acquiesce in the spending of their tax dollars for its support. At the same time, I think that librarians would be untrue to their calling and betrayers of the public interest, if, in order to become popular, they transform their institutions into three ring circuses.

In such a dilemma, I think that what is most desirable is not a compromise, not a little giving in here and there, but a philosophy, a concept of the function of a library which would constitute a guide to making decisions about what a library should and should not do. It is a time, I think, when you and your leaders should do a lot of thinking about just exactly what a library is for; the *kind* of contribution which it can and should make to a community. Such a philosophy should take into account the fact that the library is not the only means by which, in this age, people can be informed or inspired or entertained. You have to ask yourselves what the *peculiar* and *distinctive* contribution is that the library can make.

I lack the competence to propose such a

philosophy to you. But I would like to make a few suggestions along this line for your consideration. Libraries, first of all, have their major stake in books. Books are, of course, a source of information on an endless number of subjects. By expanding their reference services in recent years, libraries have made, it seems to me, one of their major adjustments to the needs of the communities and the people they serve. Perhaps it is not all to the good that in many libraries, you can call on the telephone and get information which someone has to dig up out of books. It might be more educative if the person wanting the information had to find it himself. But we must recognize that this is one of the many ways in which modern man has become dependent on the specialist. The librarian in this capacity, becomes a specialist in the ferreting out of information. The librarian knows where to find it in the shortest space of time, because of the training and experience he or she has had in the use of books. I believe that libraries can and should continue to provide and expand their reference services.

Books, purely as a source of entertainment, continue to have a great appeal, in spite of all the competing entertainment media. The library can not and should not expect that people will rely exclusively on books for entertainment. And I can see no reason they should. But there will continue to be millions of people who will prefer to settle themselves comfortably in their favorite chair, and escape from the cares of their world by following adventure or romance through a book rather than listening to a radio program, watching television, visiting the corner tavern, or going to a movie. The library must continue to serve these people.

Thus the library has a *growing* responsibility as a storehouse and dispenser of information, and a *continuing* function as a provider of books for entertainment. But I am much more interested in another use of books, the one suggested in today's theme, and to me the most significant. I refer to books as a source of ideas.

I would like to digress for a moment now to speak of the media with which I work day in and day out—radio and television. I must confess to you that on occasion I am somewhat frightened by the potentialities and power of these means of mass communication. In a free society, we must have faith that the collective judgment of all the people is more apt to be right than the judgment of any one man or

any small group of men. But how are these judgments formed? Are they the result of thinking, or are they induced by the effects of stimuli and unconscious processes by which those stimuli are transformed into opinion?

Millions and millions of dollars are spent on radio and television advertising. The advertiser wants value for every dollar he spends. So a tremendous amount of research has gone into the study of the effectiveness of various forms of advertising. When you hear a commercial announcement on a network radio or television program, do not think for a moment, absurd as it may sound to you, that it has been written and produced by some nit-wit. These commercial announcements are what they are because they sell. Among the facts which have been discovered is that the same slogan, reiterated time and again, is effective. The name of a product, repeated over and over and over, so impresses itself on the consciousness of the listener or viewer that he almost automatically buys that product. The fact that such announcements are annoying or irritating is beside the point, so far as the advertiser is concerned. One of the most irritating commercials ever broadcast over WKZO, in my opinion, sold an astounding amount of the product.

I have spoken about radio and television commercials only to illustrate a significant point: that these media, by the power of suggestion alone, by the stimulation of unconscious processes of feeling or thought, produce results. And this same technique may be used to sell ideas on other subjects to listeners and viewers. You listen to a talk or a discussion on some public issue, and you do not have time to think before you're carried along with the speaker or speakers. This technique of swaying a crowd was used by speakers before the day of radio, but the effect of their labors was confined to those within the natural range of their voices.

What I am trying to say is that radio and television, while making many valuable contributions, may not induce the listener or viewer to think a problem through for himself. He is apt to be swayed into accepting someone else's idea. If there is a conflict of ideas, as for example, between Truman and MacArthur, he may listen to both, and make up his mind, or his prejudices, as to which he agrees with. But he is in danger of simply agreeing with the one which is the more persuasive, which makes the biggest impression on him. He is liable to do little real, honest-to-goodness thinking about the issues himself.

When you read a book, on the other hand, there always is time to pause. You finish a sentence, stop reading, and say to yourself: "Wait a minute, now, Mr. Author. Do I go along with that or don't I?" Now the fathers of our Republic based their faith in the capacity of free men to govern themselves on the conviction that men are capable of reasoning things out for themselves. If we get to the point where we are merely being *sold* ideas, or being given the choice between two sets of canned ideas, I am fearful of the workability of free institutions. For that reason, I think we must continue to have recourse to books as a source of ideas. And I believe that in due course, thoughtful people are going to recognize that they can best make up their minds on important matters in that kind of environment that permits thought, along with the suggestion of fresh ideas.

Some of your members have mentioned to me that you are considerably alarmed about the censorship of books. Why are we becoming afraid of ideas? Why are we confusing the *explanation* of communism with the *advocacy* of communism? Why do we seem to be losing confidence in the capacity of people to discern the error which the advocate of a cause commits? I think it is because of the spread of advertising psychology, the technique of getting people to accept an idea or a mode of action simply by repeating it long enough and suggesting it repeatedly. We would not have censorship if we retained our confidence that people are capable of reasoning things out and reaching sensible answers. While the growing trend toward censorship is something we all must resist as much as we can, it is a trend which may increase in the years ahead. But the outlook is not altogether hopeless. There is much that we do not know about how people make up their minds, and I am inclined to believe that in a nation where the institutions of freedom have been long established, we shall discover that perhaps the capacity of the average citizen for thinking and his native wisdom and judgment have been vastly under-rated.

Thus books, as sources of information, entertainment, and ideas are going to continue to be important. And, of course, what I have said about books also applies, in most cases, to periodicals. I think one of the finest things you have done is to emphasize the establishment of reading habits among children. From what I know of the work of libraries in this area, I would say that you have done a magni-

(Continued on page 20)

## M.L.A. NOMINEES 1951-1952

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Michigan Library Association, the Committee on Nominations presents the following candidates for office in the Association for the coming year. Official ballots are sent to all members in good standing. Results will be announced at the annual conference November 1 to 3.

### FOR FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT (President-elect)



**FRANCES E. BURNSIDE**, Head, work with Children, Jackson Public Library. Detroit Teachers College, 1916-17; Detroit Public Library Training Class, 1918; Western Reserve University, School of Library Science; Work with Children, Certificate, 1924; Extension Work, Wayne University, 1947; Extension Work, University of Michigan, 1947; University of Chicago, Workshop, Youth and Communication, 1947; Children's Department, Detroit Public Library, 1918-1948; Children's Librarian, 1924-1934; First Assistant, Children's Department, 1935-1940; Head, Work with Children, Parkman Regional Branch, 1940-1948; Assistant Librarian, Grand Haven Public Library, Grand Haven, Michigan, 1948-1951; Head, Work with Children, Jackson Public Library since March 1, 1951. Chairman, Children's Section, M.L.A., 1938; President, Metropolitan Library Association, 1939; Chairman, Michigan Membership, A.L.A. Division of Libraries for Children and Young People, 1948; Chairman, Committee on Records and Radio, A.L.A. Division of Libraries for Children and Young People, 1949; Chairman, Nominating Committee, Michigan C.L.A., 1950; Chairman, Salary, Staff and Tenure Committee, M.L.A., 1951; Consultant, Michigan State Library Workshops, 1950. American Library Association, Michigan Library Association, Children's Section, M.L.A., Division of Libraries for Children and Young People.



**LAURA M. STEESE**, Director, Work with Children, Flint Public Library. A.B., Houghton College, Houghton, New York; B.S. in Library Science, New York State College for Teachers, Department of Librarianship, 1934; Children's Librarian, Albany Public Library, Albany, New York, 1934-1942; Elementary School Librarian, Lakewood Public Library, Lakewood, Ohio, 1942-1943; Children's Librarian, Newark Public Library, Newark, New Jersey, 1943-1948; Director, Work with Children, Flint Public Library, 1948-to date. Member, A.L.A., M.L.A.; Chairman, Children's Section, New Jersey Library Association 1946-1948; Chairman, A.L.A. Membership Committee, Division of Libraries for Children and Young People, 1949-1951; Chairman, Book Committee, Children's Section, M.L.A., 1948-1949; Chairman, Coordinating Committee, School and Children's Librarians Section, M.L.A., 1950-1951; Chairman, District III, M.L.A., 1950-1951.

### FOR SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

**NORMAN J. BUNKER**, Librarian, Carnegie Library, Ironwood. A.B. in Journalism, Michigan State College, 1941; AMLS (advanced), University of Michigan, 1949; U. S. Army, 1942-1946; Assistant, Library Science Divisional Library, University of Michigan, 1948-1949; Branch assistant, Dearborn Public Library, 1949-1950; Librarian, Carnegie Library, Ironwood, 1950-to date. Member, A.L.A. Member, M.L.A. Legislative Committee, 1951.

**MRS. KATHERINE D. NEVITT**, Librarian at branch of Michigan College of Mining and Technology, Sault Ste. Marie; B.A., Wells College, 1924; Certificate, University of Wisconsin, 1924-1925; Reference Librarian, Hackley Public Library, Muskegon Heights Branch, 1925-1926; Branch Librarian, Great Lakes Naval Training Station, 1943-1946; Branch Librarian, Michigan College of Mining and Technology, 1946 - to date. Secretary - Treasurer, District 7, M.L.A., 1949-1951.

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June 19

### FOR SECRETARY

CLAXTON HELMS, Librarian, Allegan Public Library, Allegan. B.S. in Education, South East Missouri State College, 1938; B.S. in L.S., University of Illinois, 1940; Assistant, State College Library, 1939; Librarian, McPherson (Kansas) College, 1940; Assistant, Missouri School of Mines, 1942; Assistant, Business and Technical, Grand Rapids Public Library, 1944; Librarian, Allegan Public Library, 1949-to date. Member, M.L.A. and A.L.A. Secretary-Treasurer, Grand Rapids Council of Public Employees, 1946-7; Chairman, Grand Rapids Junior Members, 1947-1949; Chairman, A.L.A. Junior Members, 1948-1949; Chairman, M.L.A. Junior Members, 1948-1949; Chairman Grand Rapids Public Library Staff Association, 1947-1948; Chairman, M.L.A. Recruiting Committee, 1948-1949; Member at Large, M.L.A. 1949-1950; Vice-Chairman, M.L.A. District 4, 1949-1950; Chairman, M.L.A. District 4, 1950-1951; Secretary, Allegan Junior Chamber of Commerce, 1950-1951; Member, A.L.A. Joint Committee on Library Work as a Career, 1949-1951; Member, A.L.A. Committee on Boards and Committees, 1949-1951; Member, Committee of Judges for Field Enterprises Awards, 1950-to date. Secretary, M.L.A. Reference Section, 1950-1951.

FRIEDA A. HINRICHS, Head, Cataloging Department, Michigan State College Library. A.B., Kalamazoo College, 1926; B.S. in L.S., Simmons College Library School, 1928; M.A. in L.S., University of Michigan, 1948; Branch Assistant, Kalamazoo Public Library, 1926-1927; Cataloger, Iowa State College Library, 1928-1943; Serials Cataloger, Michigan State College Library, 1943-1946; Head, Cataloging Department, M.S.C., 1946-to date. Member, A.L.A., A.C.R.L., M.L.A., M.R.G.C.; Director, Michigan Regional Group of Catalogers, 1946-1948; Secretary-Treasurer, M.R.G.C., 1948-1949.

### FOR TREASURER

H. GLEN FITCH, Librarian, Hillsdale College. A.B., Michigan State Normal College, 1934; B.S. in L.S., Library School, George Peabody College for Teachers, 1935; M.A., Michigan State College, 1939; Part-time evening reference librarian, Michigan State College, 1935-1937; Reference Librarian, Michigan State College, 1937-1946; Librarian, Hillsdale College, 1946-to date. Member, A.L.A., M.L.A.; Vice-Chairman, M.L.A. District 2, 1946-1947; Chairman of same district, 1947-1948; Treasurer, M.L.A., 1950-1951.

KARL O. BURG, Librarian, Traverse City Public Library, Grand Traverse County. A.B., Roosevelt College, Chicago, Illinois, 1948; M.S. in L.S., University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, 1949, 1945, non-professional assistant in reference, genealogy and reading room operation, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois; 1949, Summer Professional instructor in library science for University of Illinois Mobile Library Training School throughout state; 1949-to date, City Librarian, Traverse City. Member of A.L.A., M.L.A.

### FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Professional Group)

MRS. MARION K. WILCOX, Associate Librarian, McGregor Public Library, Highland Park. A.B. in L.S., University of Michigan, 1947; Fordson High School Library, 1927-1931; Circulation Assistant, War Information Head, Associate Librarian (Audio-Visual Head), 1940-to date. Member, A.L.A.; M.L.A.; Vice-Chairman, District 3, 1948-1949; Chairman, District 3, 1949-1950; Legislative Committee, M.L.A.; 1947-49, 1949-51.

JEANNE LLOYD, Librarian, Baldwin Public Library, Birmingham. A.B., Wellesley College, 1926; B.L.S., Carnegie Library School, 1931; Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Circulation Department, 1931-1943; Librarian, Warren County Library, Monmouth, Illinois, 1943-1946; Librarian, Harford County Library, Bel Air, Maryland, 1946-1947; Librarian, Public Library, Birmingham, 1947-to date.

### FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Trustee Group)

ISAAC GROVE, County Superintendent of Schools, Monroe. County Normal; Kalkaska County; Life Certificate, A.B., Ypsilanti; M.A., University of Michigan; Classroom Teacher, 16 years in elementary grades; Junior High School and Senior High School Mathematics Instructor; County Superintendent of Schools.

MRS. FRANKLIN M. RECK, Homemaker; Secretary to her author husband, Franklin M. Reck, Manchester. B.S., Iowa State College, 1924; Home Economics teacher, Iowa, Colorado, and Michigan, 1924-1929; President, Detroit Council of Camp Fire Girls, 1932-1937; Past



President, Manchester Township Library Board, and member since 1943. Chairman, District II Trustees Section, M.L.A., 1947-1950; Member, Membership Committee, Trustees Section, at present time.

#### A.L.A. MEMBERS

**WILLIAM CHAIT**, Kalamazoo Public Library. A.B., Brooklyn College, 1934; B.S. in L.S., Pratt Institute Library School, 1935; M.S. in L.S., Columbia University School of Library Service, 1938; Part-time student assistant, Brooklyn Public Library, 1931-34; Branch Assistant, Brooklyn Public Library, 1935-41; Branch Librarian, Brooklyn Public Library, 1941-1945; Service Command Librarian, Second Service Command, U. S. Army, 1945-1946; Chief, in-service training and personnel control, Milwaukee Public Library, 1946-1948; Librarian, Kalamazoo Public Library, 1948-to date. Member, A.L.A., M.L.A.; Member, A.L.A. Committee on Annuities, Pensions, and Life Insurance, 1946-1950; Chairman, M.L.A. Public Relations Committee, 1949-to date; Member, M.L.A. Salary, Staff and Tenure Committee, 1950-to date; Chairman, M.L.A. District I, 1950-1951.

**JOHN G. LORENZ**, Assistant State Librarian, Michigan State Library. B.S., College of City of New York, 1939; B.S. in L.S., Columbia University, 1940; Library Fellow, College of City of New York, 1939-40; Library Assistant, Queens Borough Public Library, 1940-41; Business and Technology Librarian, Schenectady Public Library, 1941-44; Grand Rapids Public Library, Chief, Reference Division, 1944-46; Assistant State Librarian, Michigan State Library, 1946-to date. Member, A.L.A., M.L.A., A.S.P.A.; State Chairman, N. Y. Junior Members, 1943; Member, Executive Board, N.Y.L.A., 1942-44; Chairman, A.L.A. Membership Committee, Michigan, 1945-47; Chairman, Reference Section, M.L.A. 1946; Chairman, Adult Education Section, 1949; Member, Planning Committee, M.L.A., 1950-51; Member, A.C.R.L., Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, 1948-51.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws of the Michigan Library Association submits the following proposed amendments for consideration at the annual meeting, November 1951.

Note: The Constitution and By-Laws are printed in the *Michigan Librarian*, June 1947, Vol. 13, No. 2, page 13. They also may be obtained from Mrs. Margaret Wylie, 341 Southlawn, East Lansing, Michigan.

(Matter in italics is new; matter represented by one dash (—) for each word to be omitted. Brief explanation of change follows each section when amendment or addition is not obvious.)

*The officers shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Association and shall serve until the adjournment of the meeting at which their successors are chosen, except the Treasurer, whose term of office shall coincide with the fiscal year.*

(Portion of the second paragraph of Section 2 of this article moved up to stand as the second paragraph of Section 1.)

#### ARTICLES IV—OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT

Section 1. *Officers.* The officers of the Association shall be a President, a First Vice-President who shall be the president-elect, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall perform the duties pertaining to their respective offices and such

other duties as may be approved by the Executive Board.

Sec. 2. *Executive Board.* The Administration of the affairs of the Association shall be vested in the Executive Board which shall consist of the officers of the Association, the retiring president, together with — two — members *at large* elected by the Association.

The — — — — — members  
*at large* — — — — — shall be elected — —

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— — — — —. *for a two year term. One member shall be elected each year excepting that in the first year following the adoption of this provision, two members at large shall be elected. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes in such election shall serve for two years, and the candidate who receives the second highest number of votes shall serve for one year.*

The Executive Board shall conduct all business pertaining to the Association between annual and other meetings of the Association and shall perform such specific duties as may

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be given to it in the Constitution and By-Laws.

The Executive Board shall have power to appoint agents or engage employees to carry on the work of the Association, and shall provide for the compensation of such agents or employees.

Paragraph 2 provides for two-year staggered terms for members at large; now one year. Paragraph four added to permit Executive Board to employ Executive Secretary Legislative Representative, and other employees.)

Sec. 3. *Advisory Council.* The chairmen of districts, of sections, and — of standing committees shall constitute the Advisory Council of the Association. It shall meet with the Executive Board of the Association at least once a year, upon call of the President of the Association, for the purpose of co-ordinating plans and programs of action of the several functional units of the Association. (Chairmen of sections are made members of Advisory Council. This has been customary for a time but there has been no specific authorization therefor.)

#### ARTICLE VI—DISTRICTS

Sec. 2. *Officers.* Each district shall elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman who shall be chairman-elect, and a Secretary-Treasurer at such time and in such manner as shall be de-

termined by a majority of the voting members of that district, — — The terms of office shall — — — — —

— — begin with the adjournment of the next succeeding — spring meeting.

— — — — —  
Only members of the Association shall be eligible for district offices.

(Term of office of district officers to begin with close of spring meeting instead of coinciding with terms of officers of the Association. Last sentence contains no substantive change; merely clarifies language.)

#### ARTICLE VIII. AFFILIATION WITH A.L.A.

Sec. 2. Councilors to the A.L.A. shall be elected by the Association for the term of office provided for in the By-Laws of the A.L.A. and shall take office at the A.L.A. Annual Conference following their election. Councilors to the A.L.A. shall have the privilege of attending meetings of the Executive Board of the Michigan Library Association, but without the right of voting.

#### ARTICLE X—AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present at any general session of any annual meeting of the Association, upon a written recommendation

(Continued on page 18)

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# 1951 DISTRICT MEETINGS

by  
*Robert M. Orr*  
*First Vice-President*  
*Michigan Library Association*



Theme of this year's district meetings was "Books have Ideas, Ideas have Power." Most districts did an excellent job of incorporating the theme in their programs, and as a result, members found the meetings to be both interesting and instructive.

As the "grass roots" of the association, the meeting gave all MLA members an opportunity to hear what the association is doing, and to participate in the development of these programs. To many, this is the most valuable part of the MLA program. With MLA committees active this year, there was considerable interest and discussion in the various programs brought before the meetings.

## DISTRICT I

District I met at the Dowagiac Public Library on Wednesday, May 9, with William Chait, chairman. Coffee was a welcome beginning for the day to the large group of librarians and trustees who attended. The combined business meeting was given over to a review of MLA activities, announcements by Mrs. Hunter for the State Board, discussion of redistricting, and a report by Miss Fisher for the Legislative Committee. The group approved redistricting, and forwarded a resolution to the Legislature urging that adequate arrangements be made concerning the State Library.

Mr. Martin Cohen of the Kalamazoo Public Library showed a film, "The Problem We Face," and led a discussion on it. This was followed by business meetings for librarians and trustees.

The afternoon was devoted to a speech by Dr. Willis F. Dunbar, Radio Station Director from Kalamazoo, and a discussion by Mrs. Rudolph I. Clary, Dowagiac; Mr. J. R. Perry,

Benton Harbor; Mr. Leo H. Gregory, Coldwater; Miss Maureen Fisher, Niles; and Miss Alice LeFevre, Kalamazoo.

## DISTRICT II

District II met at the Presbyterian Church in Monroe on April 19, with Mrs. Karl Daume in charge. After registration and coffee hour, there was a joint meeting of trustees and librarians which opened with a film showing and discussion, succeeded by MLA greetings and business. Reports of the various committees were heard and the group sent a resolution to the Legislature urging that penal money not be diverted.

Next, Miss Frances Burnside, of Jackson, presented the latest trends in children's books. Following luncheon, trustees and librarians came together again for a socio-drama, "Middleville, Michigan, seeks the solution." The group held a spirited board meeting at which various library problems were discussed by the "acting" Library Board. Separate business meetings were held afterwards.

## DISTRICT III

Coffee hour started the day at the First Presbyterian Church, Flint, for the District III meeting on Wednesday, April 18, with Miss Laura Steese as chairman. Following coffee, greetings were given by Mr. William Webb, Flint Librarian, and MLA news was presented by Miss Marian Young, MLA President. Following announcement of committee work, there was an address by Mr. Harry Whang, Detroit, on the "38th Parallel, the Mid-Century Divide" which stimulated a lively discussion of issues involved in Korea. After separate business meetings, the group adjourned for luncheon.

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During the luncheon, greetings were given by his representatives on behalf of the Mayor of Flint, by Mrs. Thelma Kramer, Trustee Chairman, and by Mrs. Fyan for the State Board.

The afternoon session was devoted to a panel on "Censorship—Tool or Menace?" Mr. Arthur Sarvis, Flint, was moderator, and participating on the panel were: Miss Alice LeFevre of Kalamazoo; Dr. Walter H. Winchester of Flint; Mrs. Crawford of Flint; and Mr. Robert M. Orr of Grosse Pointe. After a brisk debate, the meeting closed with tea at the Children's Library.

#### DISTRICT IV

District IV met at the Methodist Church in Ionia on May 11, with Mr. Claxton Helms as chairman. After the coffee hour, there was a joint meeting with announcements of MLA news by Mr. Orr, Miss Helen Warner from the State Board, and Legislative Committee news by Miss Ruth Warncke. At the conclusion of the discussion of the State Library problem, the group unanimously agreed to forward a telegram to the Legislature urging that the State Library be kept in its present quarters until a new building is available and that money be appropriated for new building plans. Separate business meetings were then held for librarians and trustees.

After lunch, the Grand Rapids Librarians Club presented a socio-drama on the district theme which was well received and resulted in considerable discussion.

#### DISTRICT V

Coffee was served while members gathered for the District V meeting held in the Veterans Room of the Eaton Rapids Public Library on April 25, with Miss Dorothy Rozek in charge. The morning was spent in discussing MLA activities under Mr. Robert M. Orr. Redistricting was considered and overwhelmingly approved. Miss Hazel DeMeyer brought Legislative Committee news, and Mr. Donald Kohlstedt of Grand Rapids represented the State Board. At the end of the meeting, the group approved sending a telegram to the Legislature opposing diversion of penal fine money. Then librarians and trustees separated for business meetings. After luncheon, Mrs. Dorothy Maywood Bird was introduced and gave a short address. The afternoon session was given over to the district theme as presented by Dr. Virgil J. Scott, Michigan State

Professor and author of the *Hickory Stick*. Following Dr. Scott's excellent talk, the conference adjourned for a tour of the Horner Woolen Mills.

#### DISTRICT VI

Miss Ruth Wittbecker was in charge of the District VI meeting held May 17 at the Federal Building at East Tawas City. Following the coffee hour, a joint meeting of librarians and trustees was held, at which reports were heard from the State Board, MLA news by Marian Young, and committee reports. A discussion of redistricting was held, followed by separate business meetings. Lunch was at the Episcopal church there.

The afternoon speaker was John T. Frederick, well known professor and book reviewer. Mr. Frederick pointed out that it is the reader who is the decisive factor in making a literature. We as the professional people working to bring books and people together are called upon to make value judgments about and to make our judgments effective. Reading *does matter*. It is true that "books have ideas: ideas have power." That is our faith. It matters *that* people read, *how* people read and *what* people read. Mr. Frederick discussed a group of recent books which he feels are important and worth reading.

#### DISTRICT VII

Last of the Spring meetings was held on May 19, when District VII convened at the Menominee County Library at Stephenson with Mrs. Dorothy M. Shipman as chairman. Following the coffee hour, a joint meeting was held at which greetings were given by Mr. Albert Kipfer and reports were read by representatives of the State Board, MLA, and the State Library. Mr. Robert Orr led a discussion of MLA business, and Mr. Arthur Yabroff led a discussion on the work of the Legislative Committee.

Talks were given on "Books in the Atomic Age" by Mr. Norman J. Bunker of Ironwood, Mrs. Clifford Brown of Stephenson, and Miss Nancy Thomas of Escanaba. Separate business meetings were then held. After lunch, Mr. Joseph Gukey gave a talk on "Highlights of the Community School Service Program at Stephenson", and Miss Jean Worth discussed "Local Lore and Legend." With the conclusion of the District VII meeting, librarians of Michigan once more completed state-wide discussions of problems of state-wide interest.

**Deadline for the October Michigan Librarian: September 1.**

# THE COLLEGE LIBRARY AS THE READER'S WORKSHOP

by Radoslaw A. Tsanoff

*Editor's Note: Below is a portion of Mr. Tsanoff's article which appeared in the March, 1951, issue of the Texas Library Journal.*

I have come to your meeting from my study in our new Fondren Library at Rice, where I have been spending most of my waking hours ever since it was opened last year. That study, right next to the book shelves, is incomparably the best workshop I have ever had. Any words I may say in criticism of the old-fashioned libraries where I have worked in the past are meant only to illustrate certain fine recent trends in libraries which fill the hearts of us library users with gratitude.

A library is not a storehouse but a workshop. Its books are there in order to be read. The more extensively and the more easily the books can be moved from their shelves to some reader's desk or table, the more perfectly the library is realizing its purpose. Therefore, while as a reader I should respect the rights and claims of other library users, ideally speaking the whole library should be available as freely as possible for each one of us. The librarian should encourage the various research and productive work that alone makes the library a laboratory of growing thought, in which old books come to new life. Keep the flow of books from shelves to study desks as easy and speedy as possible. Make every reasonable effort to procure needed books that are lacking in the library. Urge the faculty to anticipate their needs and make them known to the librarian.

Two libraries in one of our large cities, only a few blocks from each other, exemplify in my mind the wrong and right way of administering a public collection of books. When I entered one of them, I turned towards the catalog to look up some titles. But in my way was an official sitting on a high chair, who asked me, "What do you want?" His tone of voice was that of a watchman. The reading room was dimly lighted; only a few readers were working there. The doors to the stacks were locked, you could enter them only around the watchman. I requested no special favors, looked up my titles in the catalog, did not find them and walked out. The other library had show windows exhibiting recent accessions in various fields of books. It was crowded with readers. When I inquired after some books which I had not been able to find elsewhere, an assistant took the trouble to find out if

perhaps they had been recently ordered, mentioned some related titles, and brought two of them to my table where I was working, and asked if there were other books I might need soon. The difference between these two institutions is the difference between a warehouse and a laboratory.

Librarians and readers need better understanding of each other. The college library can give its readers much needed education, not only by instructing freshmen in the use of the catalog, but by acquainting graduate students and professors with its available resources and also with its various needs for cooperation. But we readers hope to have more librarians who understand our points of view. Of course a college library must have its staff of expertly trained library technicians. But it should also have some scholars and research scientists, perhaps on part-time appointment. You have no idea how pleased the members of the Rice Faculty were when one of our own colleagues, a productive literary scholar, was chosen as chief librarian of the Fondren Library at Rice. When we speak to him of research, he can understand our language. I think it would be a good idea if some members of the library staff were from time to time engaged in research work of their own, and in some other field than bibliography.

Another point: I know that it is more manageable to put books for collateral reading on a special shelf and just send the students to it. But it is better, far more educative, to develop the students' own powers of looking up a topic and finding the available sources in the library. That is the way real scholars are trained. A young man who is looking up one book on the shelves sees other related volumes next to it. He thus grows in interest and competence. This takes time, but it realizes the true purposes of the library and of college education.

As our college libraries become truly readers' workshops, our college graduates will develop habits of library study, and our educated public will then demand and will secure adequate provisions for systematic work in our public libraries. Librarians should not regard this as a coming trouble but as a promise of a more vital cultural power for the libraries of the future.

## CHILDREN LEARN OF LIBRARY USE\*

by  
*Bette Henderson, Librarian*  
*Galesburg Memorial Library*

In Galesburg learning by doing is being practiced by a seventh grade class under the leadership of its teacher, Donald Gray. Every afternoon last week the 33 boys and girls met at the Memorial Library for an hour's study of how to use the public library facilities. The degree of enthusiasm shown by both pupils and instructor was well illustrated Wednesday when the class started a quarter hour ahead of schedule without appearing to observe the fact.

The first hour's work of this library short course consisted of an explanation of the various "tools" provided by the library for study, research and enjoyment. The students were told how to use the card catalog, the Dewey decimal system for locating books on various subjects, use of the *Reader's Guide* to locate recent articles on particular subjects in the library's periodical collection and such questions as exactly what a magazine is, the difference between a biography and an autobiography and many similar subjects.

The classes on the three following days were spent by the boys and girls in using their newly acquired "tools," with a little coaching from their teacher and librarian. The busy hum of industry during those periods really illustrated how rapidly youngsters nowadays acquire new aptitudes.

On the final day of the course, the members of the class who were not already registered as borrowers at the library obtained cards and every boy and girl took out a book on a subject that interested him in order to prepare a report on it.

Ever since the opening of the library a year and a half ago, the lending system has been adapted to the special needs of the community. While the library is maintained and operated by the city with no charge for its residents, adults residing outside the city limits are charged a nominal yearly card fee, but the privilege of borrowing books free has been extended to all children attending the local school from the entire consolidated district.

\* Reprinted by permission of the *Kalamazoo Gazette*.



## COLLEGE SECTION NEWS

Collected by Catherine O'Connell, Section Chairman

The Ferris Institute Library has recovered rapidly since the fire in February of last year. In that fire, all books, records and equipment were lost and a complete new library had to be assembled. At the present time, the library has over 7,000 volumes and has completed cataloging of about 6,400 of these volumes. A vertical file of several thousand pamphlets has been established and all pamphlets have been assigned subject headings. Other projects begun, but not completed, include a short story index and scrap books of Ferris material. This work has been done by a staff consisting of one trained librarian, two assistants, and two typists.

The staff and students are looking forward to the new library which is scheduled for completion in May, 1952. The library will occupy the top floor of the new Administration building and the architect's plans show that an up-to-date library will be built. Planning the new library was a cooperative venture, with the present staff submitting suggestions to the Dean of Instruction, who in turn conferred

with the architect. Ideally, a separate building should house the library, but we believe we will have a workable library which will be adequate for a number of years.

The present library is housed in an army barracks which was converted into a library following the fire.

Improvements amounting to \$25,000 at Hope College Library this year included a complete redecorating job in Graves Library and the installation of a new steel stack unit that does much to modernize the library.

A gift of valuable music scores and about fifty bound volumes of the best editions of Wagner, Bach, Haydn, Schubert, and Beethoven have been sent to Aquinas Library by the present British Ambassador to the Irish Republic in memory of his father to whom the music belonged. It will be kept together as a unit in the Fine Arts collection.

Five teacher-librarian courses will be given at Marygrove during the summer (1951): Library Materials for the Elementary Grades, Organization and Administration of the School Library, Reference Materials for High Schools, Problems in School Library Administration, and Library Materials for Young People.

### Personnel

Sister M. Claudia, I.H.M., Librarian of Marygrove College, is editor of "At Your Service", a monthly page on reference topics in the *Catholic Library World*, and was the Chairman of the College and University Library Meeting at the 25th Annual Conference of the Catholic Library Association, Chicago, March 28. She is the author of *Guide to the Documents of Pius XII*, Westminster, Maryland, The Newman Press, 1951, and of an article, "Why Wait?" in *Wilson Library Bulletin*, November, 1950.

Mr. George Lenches, Reference Assistant, Marygrove College, has been doing quite a bit of translating (French, German, Italian, Latin, and Hungarian) for authors who need research material translated.

Sister M. Palmyre, Order Librarian, Marygrove College, has been completing work on her M.A.L.S. thesis for the Catholic University Library School. Topic: A Survey of Catholic Americana and Catholic Publishing in the United States 1871-1875. This study is a part of a cooperative project which will

### GREAT LAKES BOOK BINDERY

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AND  
LIBRARY BINDING



eventually cover the gap between Parsons, *Early Catholic America*, and Romig's *Guide to Catholic Literature*, 1888-

Mrs. Michael Krause (Mary Griffin), former Reference Librarian at Marygrove, represented Marygrove at the recruiting program held at the Detroit Public Library on May 9 under the sponsorship of the Junior Section of the M.L.A.

Sister Mary Malachi, O.P., who is scheduled to give a course in Book Selection at the University of Portland in Oregon, June, 11-August 11, a nine week session, writes: "The Library is daily becoming more overcrowded because of added shelving, tables and card catalogue units. Several additional Library Bureau units added to take care of the growing book collection are now completely filled though only received at Christmas. Our plight is indeed desperate. Either we shall have to cease adding books or we shall have to add a prefabricated hut to act as a storage unit for the less called-for books. The only sane answer is, of course, a library building like that of our more fortunate neighbors, Calvin College. Do you know of any PUBLIC BENEFACTOR willing to perpetuate his name by donating the funds for a modest though very functional college library?"

"This past year we have been trying, in a small way because of lack of funds, to build up an audio-visual collection. The emphasis at present is on poetry and drama recordings. The records are from Library of Congress and Harvard Vocarium, English Association and other sources. We have also added special folk song and dance recordings, e.g., the two albums of the Phonétique Nationale of Paris recordings of French and French colonies' native songs and the Spanish album of Ethnic Folkways. We added film strips of Medieval and Renaissance history also."

Sister Eugene Marie, O.P., with an M. L. S. from the University of Michigan, will be in charge of Aquinas College library this summer. She will be assisted by two of the high-school librarians, Sisters M. Michael, and M. Carola.

Mr. Howard Zandbergen, who was a student assistant in the library during his undergraduate days at Hope, has returned to be the new cataloger after obtaining the Master's degree in Library Science while working on the Circulation Department staff of the University of Illinois Library. For the last year and a half he has been Assistant Librarian at

the Texas A & I College Library at Kingsville, Texas.

Miss Perma A. Rich, B.S. in L.S., Illinois, came to Hope College Library as reference librarian, September, 1950, from the Canton Public Library where she had been head of the Reference and Technical Department. Previously she had served as librarian of Union College Library, Barbourville, Kentucky and of Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky.

### MICHIGAN REGIONAL GROUP OF CATALOGERS

The Michigan Regional Group of Catalogers held their Spring Luncheon Meeting in the Union Building of the Michigan State College, East Lansing, May 18, 1951. A panel on the subject of "Use of the Card Catalog" was the feature of the program. Participating on the panel were Lucille Harwick, Lansing Public Library; Katharine M. Stokes, Western Michigan College of Education; Esther Tracy, Grand Rapids Public Library; Claxton Helms, Allegan Public Library; Taisto J. Niemi, Western Michigan College of Education. Mr. Don Phillips of the Michigan State College acted as moderator, using his famous Discussion 66 method.

Invitations to attend the meeting were extended to the Reference Section and the College Section of M.L.A. More than one hundred people attended.

—Clarence L. Weaver, President

### LIBRARY SCIENCE DEGREE

The American Federation of Teachers, at its meeting in Detroit, Michigan, August 26-27, 1950 adopted a resolution regarding recognition of the Bachelor of Science Degree in relation to the salary status of librarians. The resolution recommends the recognizing of the Bachelor of Science in Library Science when granted on completion of one year of graduate study in library training in a recognized college or university as the equivalent of a Master's degree. Twelve states (Arizona, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, and South Carolina) have already recognized the B. S. degree in Library Science as the equivalent of the Master's degree in the matter of salary.

—Minnesota Libraries  
March, 1951, p. 263

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

(Continued from page 11)

of a Committee on Constitution and By-Laws appointed by the President, provided that a copy of the proposed amendments be sent to each member of the Association or be published in the official organ of the Association at least three weeks previous to the meeting.

### BY-LAWS

#### ARTICLE I—DUES AND FEES

Section 1. Active members. The annual dues for active members shall be as follows, and shall be payable to the Treasurer on the first of January.

(a) Salary schedule	Dues
\$1,000 and under	\$1.00
1,001 to 2,000	2.00
2,001 to 3,000	3.00
3,001 to 4,000	4.00
4,001 — to 5,000	5.00
5,001 and over	6.00

(b) — — — — —

(c) All others \$1.00  
(New bracket of "\$5,001 and over" added; dues of trustees changed to conform to amount now being paid; subsection (c) added to permit memberships for purpose of obtaining The Michigan Librarian only, and to include all others not included in subsections (a) and (b).)

#### ARTICLE IV—NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Sec. 2. *Nominations.* The Nominating Committee shall nominate — — — two or more candidates for each elective office to be filled at the next election. — — — — —

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The Nominating Committee shall report nominations to the Secretary not less than six months prior to the annual — meeting. Nominations shall be published by the Secretary in the June issue of the official — organ of the Association. — — — — —

(Language in paragraph one simplified by eliminating enumeration of offices to be filled.)

#### ARTICLE VIII—PUBLICATIONS

Sec. 2. *Official Organ.* The Michigan Librarian shall be the official organ of the Association and shall be sent to all members of the Association in good standing. There shall be an Editor appointed by the President upon the advice of the Publications Committee and with the approval of the Executive Board. A Business Manager shall be appointed by the President upon the advice of the Editor and

with the approval of the Executive Board. The term of office of the Editor and the Business Manager shall be two calendar years, beginning with the even years. *The Editor and the Business Manager shall be invited to attend meetings of the Executive Board.*

### PRECEDENT

A precept for today may be drawn from the recent experience of the Student Union store on the University of California campus. The trouble started when students protested to the management that the *National Guardian*, on sale in the store, was communistic. Owing to the store's policy of banning any publication if three students complained about it, the paper was, indeed, withdrawn. But when the action brought down upon the management's hapless heads a flood of protests against the Hearst San Francisco Examiner, *Reader's Digest*, *Life*, *Time* and the *Saturday Evening Post*, the picture, according to the American Civil Liberties Union, changed and the *National Guardian* was restored to the racks.

—Publishers' Weekly

April 7, 1951 p. 1579

### TEACHER-LIBRARIAN INSTITUTE

School and teacher librarians are reminded of the Institute, September 22 and 23, 1951, sponsored by the School Library Section of Michigan Library Association. The meetings will be held at St. Mary's Lake camp near Battle Creek.

Registration will be at 4:00 on Friday. The conference will end with the dinner meeting on Saturday.

The tentative program includes book reviews and story telling for Friday evening. Saturday morning there will be exhibits, demonstrations, and buzz groups with a resource person available for those with special problems. The Saturday afternoon program will include a panel discussion on buildings and a talk by an author.

Watch for further notices of registration, reservations, and details of the program.

For those who have not attended the Institute before, a penny post card to the reservation chairman might help her with her mailing list. Her address is: Miss Doris Sutherland, Lansing Public Library, Lansing, Michigan.

— Elizabeth Rogers, Woodruff School, Wyandotte



## ON AN INTERIM STATE LIBRARY

Now that State Library service has practically come to a standstill because of the fire, one of those critical periods, for good or evil, is before us. The provision of a new State Library adequately housed in its own building could be the beginning of a new era in state-wide service. On the other hand, failure on the part of the state to act now could cripple all services for years to come.

Many proposals have been made in Lansing looking toward a solution of this problem. Among these suggestions are:

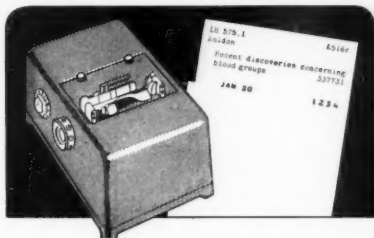
- (1) a new, separate library building near the Capitol.
- (2) a wing of the new state office building.
- (3) a combination library - Supreme Court building.
- (4) a combination State Library-Michigan State College Library in East Lansing.
- (5) return of the State Library to the old building in the same or enlarged quarters.

We feel that the first three suggestions are the only feasible ones. The old office building space is inadequate and even if enlarged is not architecturally planned for library service. A location near the Capitol is needed to serve the administrative and legislative employees of the state.

The Legislature is apparently making appropriations to provide some interim quarters for the library. This interim provision is necessary but a library can give very little real service in temporary quarters. A department which deals largely with personnel can do quite well under these conditions but when you deal primarily with books you can do very little unless and until the books can be moved, sorted, and placed on accessible shelves. (Just getting the shelves is a major problem in logistics these days). Even if a start on new quarters were made now, real service could not be resumed in less than two years.

The Legislative Committee is joining the State Board for Libraries in urging the appropriation of \$1,000,000.00 for architectural plans and drawings. We believe that if legislators knew how little library service can be given in interim quarters they would be inclined to give high priority to a new library building. If we are successful in this request the probability of a building appropriation in the next session is enhanced. If we are not successful, the chance for normal state library service in the next half dozen years is pretty slim.

—Arthur Yabroff, Chairman, Legislative Committee



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(Continued from page 7)

ficient job with the youngsters. And no phase of your work is more important.

There is one comment I'd like to make, and I am sure you will consider it radical. I happen to be devoted, as are a great many other men—and women as well—to lady nicotine. I like to smoke my pipe when I read a book. I wish there was a room in the library where I could smoke and read. I believe I'd be in the library a great deal more if there were. And I suspect that's true of other people. I suspect there are many difficulties in the way—but maybe there is some way they could be overcome.

I would like to discuss with you now whether the library has any function outside the field of books and magazines. So far as these other media are concerned, and to reiterate an earlier question, should you fight 'em or join 'em? I think that not much is to be gained by fighting them. It will do you no particular good to point with alarm at the inroads of television on book circulation. And I think it would be rather foolish, too, if you became too much alarmed about the impact of T.V. The movies came and libraries did not die. The radio came, and libraries did not die. And they will not die on account of television.

But I think the library has a logical and important function in reference, not only to movies, radio, and television, but also to the many other means outside of books by which the people of a community get information, entertainment, and ideas. And it seems to me that this function is one of coordination and guiding. I have spoken of the many, many ways in which a person may employ his leisure time. I think I could use 72 hours a day, at least, and I imagine other people feel the same. Even our smallest communities have a great deal going on, a great many community projects and organizations. I believe the library could do a great deal more than it has done to help the average citizen intelligently plan and use his time off the job.

Radio and television offer a wealth of programs for every taste. But programming in these media is a jungle, through which few people can find a clear path. We all may have our favorite programs, but we may be missing a great many others which we would enjoy and profit from, programs which we would like more than the ones we now view or hear. Yet the habit is to turn the dial to a certain frequency or channel and leave it there, taking whatever comes along. In very few

communities is there any guide to programs of good music, of fine drama, or children's stories, or any others. It seems to me that a library, with little or no cost, might easily organize in each community a listening and viewing council, with several sub-committees charged with the responsibility of discovering the best children's programs on the air, the best drama, the best music. These findings could then be published by the library in printed or mimeographed form for distribution to the public. Such findings would take the form of recommended listening.

As a public affairs director of a radio station, endeavoring day in and day out to get on our radio and television transmitters some programs which will be educational, informational, and inspirational,—programs which will appeal to the audience of thoughtful, intelligent people,—I am constantly amazed at how luke warm local organizations are about promoting such programs. For example, we have had a series of programs for some time on Saturday evenings at 6:15 called MEMO FROM LAKE SUCCESS, the finest radio program on the air about the United Nations. Yet I have been quite unable to induce our local branch of the A.A.U.N. to do anything of consequence to promote listening to this program.

I believe that the library might perform an outstanding service by guiding people to such programs as this. Furthermore, the library could make a valuable contribution by providing book and magazine displays in connection with some of these broadcasts. For many months, we broadcast a program on Sundays called INVITATION TO LEARNING. On each program, qualified authorities discussed great books. We never received any enthusiastic comment from librarians about the programs, although for a time our local library, I believe, did display some of the books discussed. But wouldn't it have been smart for the library to have featured during each week, the book discussed, and organized discussion groups around it?

It seems to me that a library might do much more than has been done along the line of tying in its program with the programs of local organizations. If a club brings a speaker to town to talk about a certain subject, the library should make something of the event, suggest books that would fit in with the subject, and so on. Do you keep track of the outstanding movies at your local theaters and endeavor to coordinate your displays with

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them? Do you keep abreast of the programs of your local clubs, some of which follow a given theme for an entire year, and seek to buy books and other materials which would be interesting in connection with such programs?

There is altogether too much of a tendency on the part of every club and institution in each community to live unto itself. And I think the libraries are guilty of the same sin. I believe that here is the answer to the question of how a library can attain greater stature and significance within a community. I would urge upon you a greater awareness of what goes on, a greater zeal in attaching yourself and your facilities to every significant institution and organization in your community.

I do not believe that this implies that you must or that you should try to make the library into a mere service station. The library always will have a character and place of its own in a community. But like any other human institution it must adapt itself to changing times. I would urge each of you librarians to read carefully your hometown newspaper every day, and, if you live in a town where there's a radio station, to listen morning and night to any newscasts on which there may be local news. With regard to every local event, ask yourself, "What does that mean to the library? Isn't there something the library can do to tie in with that?"

Now I know that you are busy people, that there is cataloging to do, and all the rest. Maybe you can find an easier way to do the routine things. Or, if you just must have more help, perhaps you can make such a strong case that you can get the money to do it. Whoever your governing body may be, I believe you will have a better chance to get the support you need if you can lay before that body a definite, clearly defined program of what you want to accomplish. You've got a selling job to do, like all the rest of us.

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Wayne University in Detroit became the fifteenth participating institution of the Midwest Inter-Library Corporation on May 5, when the Corporation's Board of Directors elected to membership Wayne's librarian, Mr. G. Flint Purdy.

Michigan State College, East Lansing, was one of the charter group of ten universities that formed the Midwest Inter-Library Corporation in 1949.

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(Continued from page 4)

hours of hard work and their union and education work is done on their own time.

Ask to be placed on the mailing lists of their union papers and other periodicals. And see that this literature is displayed in the Labor Section of your library.

What about using your library as a place in which to advertise the union radio programs that can be heard in your vicinity? Or a poster pushing the next education conference or picnic or rally that the union holds? A good way to prove your interest in the union is to plan, with union representatives, a good Labor Day display to be put up in your library during the Labor Day week. And bring all of these things to the attention of the union. You'll be pleasantly surprised at the reaction.

If you have reference facilities available bring them to the attention of the union officers. Perhaps the union would like to take a survey of their membership on some important topic or phase of union activity, or perhaps they need certain statistics in order to know how best to approach a vital problem. They probably have little idea just how to go about collecting this information. Your reference department might be able to furnish invaluable assistance and advice in these matters.

Movies are an "open sesame" that often bring the desired results. Talk them over with the union education committee and suggest a 15 minute or half hour discussion afterward. But, again, select them with care for we do get tired of the company propaganda that so often gets spewed onto film.

If your library usually has a movie program that is open to the public, bring it to the attention of the unions. Invite them to participate. And have you thought about a good union picture to show at one of the sessions?

Lists are available from the sources mentioned above.

Many of our county councils and larger locals have weekly radio programs. There are presently 15 such programs in Michigan. Get acquainted with the radio commentator and now and then give him a short news item about your services. He'll do his best to work it into his program and love you for your efforts. Too, don't forget the labor weekly papers in your area. Keep them supplied with short news items when you have them.

Many of our unions have purchased book gifts for the libraries in their communities. It might be good if you approached the unions in your town to do the same. But be sure that you're talking about a labor book when you do.

Maybe you can plan an "open house" for union members, working, of course, with the union education committees in planning it. Can you serve coffee and doughnuts later and just sit around in a gab-fest with the unionists? Or maybe the next meeting of the union education committee might be held at the library.

In short, the limit of the ways in which you can work with the unions is only the limit of your imagination and energy. And the contributions you make will win you the most loyal friends in the community. You'll enjoy our company, too, and will find that we're generally serious, hardworking people.

Finally, if you want some real help in solving the many problems that you are confronted with you might begin now to agitate for union representation on the Library Board. There's really no reason why we shouldn't have it, is there?

Many of us realize that you and we have a stake in the future. You see, we know that the forces which burned the books in Hitler's Germany were the same forces that imprisoned

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and killed the union leaders. And we know, too, that the forces that would emasculate the libraries in America and set up thought-control are the same forces that would break the unions if they had the chance.

When you begin to work officially with the unions in your town you'll be subjected to various kinds of pressure. It is inevitable. But you'll be showing us that you really believe in the democratic processes and we'll be solidly on your side. It'll be fun. Best of luck.

#### SOME LABOR BOOKS IN PRINT

*List Compiled by Bill Kemsley*

*When Labor Organizes*, Robert R. Brooks (Yale University Press).

*American Labor*, Herbert Harris (Yale University Press).

*Do You Know Labor?*, James Myers (John Day).

*Theory of the Labor Movement*, Selig Perlman (MacMillan).

*Union Rights and Union Duties*, Joel Sedman (Harcourt, Brace).

*The Dynamics of Industrial Democracy*, Clinton S. Golden and Harold J. Ruttenberg (Harper).

*New World A' Coming*, Roi Ottley (Houghton Mifflin).

*Bread Upon the Waters*, Rose Pesotta (Dodd, Mead).

*Union Guy*, Clayton Fountain (Viking)

*The UAW and Walter Reuther*, Irving J. Howe and B. J. Widick (Random).

*In Henry's Backyard*, Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish (Henry Schuman).

*Wobbly*, Ralph Chaplin (University of Chicago).

*The Bending Cross*, Ray Ginger (Rutgers).

*Clarence Darrow for the Defense*, Irving Stone (Garden City).

*The Labor Story*, Aleine Austin (Coward-McCann).

*Labor Unions in Action*, Jack Barbash (Harper).

*The Legend of Henry Ford*, Keith Sward (Rinehart).

*Labor Baron*, James A. Wechsler (Morrow).

*The Union Challenges to Management Control*, Neil Chamberlain (Harper).

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